MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

9 DECEMBER 1983

PLO Affairs

The Israeli Navy shelled a PLO base 1 km north of Tripoli harbor on the night of 8-9 December, scoring "accurate hits," the IDF spokesman announced in a statement reported by Jerusalem radio. The bombardment came after Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir urged the UN secretary general to call off arrangements to help the "terrorists" leave Tripoli in UN-sponsored ships, according to the radio.

PLO official statements on the attack, reported by Radio Monte Carlo and Beirut radio, said the Palestinians repulsed an Israeli landing attempt but sustained four casualities from shelling by an Israeli warship. A Fatah spokesman warned that the Israeli action may be the prelude to a "large-scale offensive" and said the Israelis are blockading Tripoli to prevent the departure of PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's forces. He said Fatah has contacted the UN secretary general, Greece, France, and Italy for assistance and called on Syria and Libya to lift the siege of Tripoli.

PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir, in remarks reported by Algiers Voice of Palestine radio, said the Palestinian fighters will leave with all their weapons aboard Greek ships scheduled to arrive on 9 December. A Fatah spokesman cited by ANSA said the PLO has asked France and Italy to provide a military escort for 'Arafat's men in their voyage to Algiers and North Yemen. France has already assured its assistance, he said, while contacts are under way with Italy.

An Italian Foreign Ministry spokesman cited by KUNA denied that a formal request for a naval escourt had been received from the PLO.

Turbul Voice of the Palestinian Revolution — the Fatah dissident radio based a few miles from Tripoli — did not broadcast its normally scheduled newscasts early on 9 December.

Lebanon

Salim in Damascus — Foreign Minister Elie Salim began talks in Damascus on 9 December with his counterpart 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Beirut radio reported. Salim told the Chamber of Deputies the previous day that he would discuss the question of troop withdrawals with Khaddam and expressed hope that the "new page" in relations with Syria would enable obstacles to be overcome, the radio noted.

Security Situation — U.S. Marines again exchanged fire with gunmen in southern Beirut in clashes which began late on 8 December and resumed early the next morning, according to Beirut radio. The Lebanese Army likewise engaged in "violent" clashes in the Suq al-Gharb area and eastern areas of Beirut came under artillery and rocket fire, the radio reported.

In southern Lebanon, an attack on an IDF position north of Tyre by the "Lebanese national resistance" caused around 10 Israeli casualties, according to KUNA. However, the incident was not mentioned by monitored Israeli media.

Israel

West Bank — An Arab girl from Nabulus was shot dead and her sister was severely wounded when passengers in an Israeli vehicle being stoned by youths opened fire, Jerusalem radio reported. Israeli military authorities subsequently imposed a curfew on the Nabulus casbah, the radio said. Meanwhile, five leading West Bank and East Jerusalem Arab personalities condemned the recent attack on an Israeli bus in Jerusalem, the radio noted. The five are the deposed mayors of Ramallah and Hebron, the chairman of the East Jerusalem Electric Company, and the publishers of the newspaper *AL-FAJR*.

Sharon — Minister Without Portfolio Ari'el Sharon has urged Prime Minister Shamir to "take steps" against U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis because Lewis had demanded Sharon's ouster from his former post of defense minister, Jerusalem radio reported.

Egypt

Egypt negotiated with Israel in good faith and has respected the outcome of those negotiations "in letter and spirit," but Israel's behavior and policy have complicated relations between the two countries, Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali stated in an interview with *AL-AKHBAR* reported by MENA. As for the Arabs, they would achieve their objectives if they adopted an attitude of solidarity similar to that which prevailed during the October 1973 war, he asserted.

Syria

President Hafiz al-Asad received a cable stressing the USSR's intent to strengthen bilateral ties and support Syria in accordance with the treaty of friendship and cooperation, SANA reported. Meanwhile, Al-Asad, in a letter to Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi, expressed concern about the escalation of tension in the Middle East and hope that Italy will undertake new initiatives aimed at regenerating dialogue among the sides in the conflict, according to ANSA.

Iran-Iraq War

A communique broadcast by Tehran radio said Iranian pilots shot down an Iraqi Sukhoy-22 in the Gulf and captured the pilot while IRNA reported that a Foreign Ministry spokesman "categorically denied" an iraqi claim regarding destruction of six Iranian naval targets and downing of an Iranian Air Force fighter.

OPEC Meeting

OPEC oil ministers meeting in Geneva agreed to maintain the same oil marker price and production ceiling fixed by the March 1983 London agreement, Saudi Petroleum and Mineral Affairs Minister Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani announced at the end of the 8 December session in remarks reported by AFP. He said the ministers had made a "serious commitment to adhere" to the London agreement, which lowered the marker price to $29 a barrel and set a production ceiling of 17.5 million barrels a day. While Yamani said the ministers have set "no ceiling" on Saudi production, Iranian Petroleum Minister Mohammad Gharazi said the Saudis should act as a "swing producer" and reduce their output, AFP noted. Earlier, Tehran radio reported that Gharazi "strongly defended" Iran's proposal to raise the marker price to $34 a barrel.

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DAILY REPORT

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Karmal Addresses, Dost Briefs Politburo Session

LD082001 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 8 Dec 83

[Text] A routine session of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo was chaired yesterday by Babrak Karmal, secretary general of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council.

Shah Mohammad Dost, member of the PDPA Central Committee and DRA minister of foreign affairs, presented a comprehensive report to the session concerning DRA and Pakistani delegation talks held in Geneva through the representative of the UN secretary general on 16-24 June. The report also contained information on the activity of the DRA delegation at the 38th UN general session and its meeting and discussion with the UN secretary general and his representative.

The realistic, peaceful, principled, and flexible foreign policy of the DRA Government in general, and particularly in maintaining normal relations with the neighboring countries of Pakistan and Iran and readiness for constructive negotiations and the peaceful settlement of the issues surrounding Afghanistan, was once again confirmed by the PDPA Central Committee Politburo. The report presented by Shah Mohammd Dost, which is the specific manifestation of this policy on behalf of the DRA Government in connection with the aforementioned topics, and his activity during the meetings and discussions were approved.

Babrak Karmal said: The DRA Government is constantly loyal to the principles of its peaceful foreign policy and, by observing principled flexibility, is ready to continue negotiations and to normalize the situation surrounding Afghanistan and its relations with the neighboring countries in the interest of peace and security in the region and the world. However, the forces of reaction and imperialism, led by U.S. imperialism, throw stones in this path and by continuing the undeclared war and creating tension and crisis in the region they intend to exploit them for their own interests.

Babrak Karmal said: The DRA Government, which implements the policy of the PDPA in foreign policy, consistently and indefatigably will always stand by the principled position of the solution of issues through negotiations. Of course, it will also wage a resolute struggle against the interference and aggression of imperialism and hegemonism and with the aim of finally crushing the counterrevolutionaries. There will be no hesitation, delay, or slackness in this regard. This is our resolute principled stand and all the peace-loving and progressive forces of the world, led by the great Soviet Union, are with us in this just struggle.

The Politburo session also considered indepth the results of the implementation of the state power consolidation complex plan during the first 6 months of 1362 (March-September 1983). Babrak Karmal demanded in this regard further (?attention) by the party and state organs and in connection with the implementation and reform of the plan he pointed out a number of topics which were unanimously approved by the Politburo. A resolution was adopted in this connection. According to this resolution, a series of new tasks have been set for the party and state organs in order to still further consolidate the state power in the country and to attract the broad masses of the people to take active part in the popular revolutionary sovereignty.

The Politburo discussed in detail and considered another very important topic in connection with the improvement of work among the nationalities and tribes of the country and a resolution of the Politburo which anticipates effective and new measures for the improvement of work in this sphere, was issued.

Babrak Karmal stressed the importance of work among the nationalities, tribes, and clans of the country and the important measures which the Politburo has taken in this regard, and he drew the attention of the Politburo to the practical implementation of the aforementioned measures by the party and government organs.

The Politburo expressed great satisfaction with the celebration of the fifth anniversary of the treaty of friendship, good neighborliness, and cooperation between the DRA and the USSR, which was marked with grand ceremonies in our country and in the Soviet Union. Thanks were expressed for the congratulation telegram from the high-ranking party and government leadership of the Soviet Union on the occasion, which was brought to everyone's attention by the mass media.

Babrak Karmal assessed the fraternal, friendly relations and revolutionary solidarity between the DRA and the USSR as a source of [word indsitinct] power of the people of Afghanistan in the struggle against reactionary and imperialist aggression and for the realization of revolutionary changes and the guarantor of a new society in the country.

'Counterrevolutionaries,' Weapons Seized

LD081906 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 8 Dec 83

[Text] A large band of counterrevolutionaries who were bringing a quantity of weapons from abroad into the country by way of Zibak Subdistrict, Badakhshan Province, recently was crushed by party activists, officers, and men of the sarandoy command of that province. Along with a considerable number of weapons, 209 of the counterrevolutionaries were captured.

According to a report by the security forces of that province, 1 recoilless gun, 1 mortar, 4 DSHK heavy caliber machineguns, 3 missile launchers, 2 heavy machineguns, 4 (?RPG-2), 50 assorted weapons, 15,000 rounds of ammunition for heavy weapons, 200,000 rounds of ammunition for light weapons, and a great number of mines were seized from these criminals.

According to report from Balkh Province, a number of counterrevolutionary elements who were robbing passengers along the Mazar-e Sharif and Balkh District highway have been captured, along with their weapons, by the vigilant security forces of that district.

Reportage on ICO Foreign Ministers Conference

Discussion of Resolutions

BK081133 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 8 Dec 83

[Text] The Pakistan resolution on Afghanistan was adopted today by the political committee of the foreign ministers [of the Islamic Conference Organization] without any change. Libya, Syria and Democratic Yemen reserved their positions. Yesterday, the political committee debated three Pakistani resolutions, namely, resolution on nuclear free zone in Africa, Middle East, and South Asia; security assurances of nonnuclear states against nuclear states; and security against hijacking. Pakistan's resolution on Cyprus is on.

Pakistan supported Iraqi resolution against the Israeli attack on Iraqi installations and gave a call to condemn Israel and to ensure that similar attacks in the region are not made.

The committee also adopted Jordanian resolution against Jewish settlements in the West Bank and proposal to link Dead Sea with Mediterranean. The Israeli action was condemned.

The foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Kha, had a meeting today with the PLO representative, Mr (Jamal Sobhani), now attending the foreign ministers conference in Dhaka. Sahabzada Yaqub Khan pledged Pakistan's full support to PLO. Apart from the principled stand, Pakistan wanted return of territories by Israel and conveyed Pakistan's total solidarity and fidelity with Palestinian cause. Mr (Sobhani) thanked Pakistan for its faithful support. He assured the foreign minister that despite present problems, the PLO under Chairman Mr Yasir 'Arafat is in safe hands.

The foreign minister also had a meeting with his Libyan counterpart, Mr 'Ubaydi. It may be recalled that there had been no meeting between the foreign ministers of the two countries over the years and both sides have described this meeting as fruitful. Radio Pakistan's representative says that the meeting was mainly to improve bilateral relations. Both sides desired that they should move forward. They agreed that Pak-Libya joint commission would meet very soon. The Libyan foreign minister hoped that a meeting at the highest level will take place soon.

Adoption of Afghan Resolution

BK081642 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 8 Dec 83

[Excerpt] The politic committee of the Islamic foreign ministers conference today adopted a Pakistan-sponsored resolution on Afghanistan, once again calling for immediate, full, and unconditional withdrawal of foreign forces from Afghanistan. The resolution expressed deep concern over the continued military intervention in Afghanistan by the Soviet Union and pledged support for efforts toward a political settlement of the problem. It also called for immediate efforts to ensure restitution of the right of the Afghan people to choose their own form of government and determine their own economic, political, or social system free from any foreign interference and pressure. The resolution also emphasized the need for the restoration of Afghanistan's independent, Islamic, and nonaligned status. The resolution noted that the problem of Afghanistan is a cause of concern for the entire Islamic world. It supported the UN secretary general's efforts toward a political settlement of this problem.

The resolution has called upon Islamic Conference Organization's member nations and national and international organizations to assist in alleviating the suffering of the Afghan refugees. The resolution was adopted without any amendment. However, Libya, Syria, and the PDRY reserved their positions.

8 December General Debate

BK090911 Dhaka BSS in English 0620 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Dhaka, Dec 9, BSS—Eighteen foreign ministers and heads of delegations took part Thursday in the general debate of the Islamic foreign ministers conference to express their views on the pressing problems and issues facing the Muslim world.

The common issues and problems that came under general discussion yesterday the third day of the conference were Palestine, the situation in Lebanon, the Afghan situation, Iran-Iraq war, the question of independence of Namibia and the recent development in Turkish Cyprus.

The debate on Thursday's plenary, spread into two sessions, lasted over seven hours. Even heads of delegations took part in the discussion in the morning session, while 11 country leaders spoke in the afternoon session.

The Conference Chairman and Bangladesh Foreign Minister A.R. Shamsud Doha presided over the most part of the session. But the two vice chairmen, the PLO representative and the foreign minister of Mali, were also in the chair alternately for some time.

The number countries which participated in yesterday's debate includeó Jordan, Saudia Arabia, Lebanon, Indonesia, Comoros, Morocco, Guinea, Gabon, Chad, Malaysia, Libya, Turkey, Sierra Leone, Sudan, People's Republic of Yemen, Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus and the Palestine Liberation Organization. the secretary general of the World Islamic Conference, Dr Ahmad Sharif, also took part in the debate.

A few more countries are likely to participate in the general debate today, fourth of the five day conference which began Tuesday. Until now foreign ministers and heads of delegation of 33 member countries spoke in the conference.

Saudi State Minister Sheykh Muhammad Ibrahim Ma'sud said the challenges faced by the Islamic Ummah could be resolved "if there is faith in Islam, and cooperation among the Muslim countries in social, political, economic, military and others is strengthened."

Mr Ma'sud who is leading his country's delegation called upon the Muslim countries to unite against Israel and criticised the strategic cooperation between Washington and Tel Aviv.

Mr Zafar al-Hussain [name as received], leader of Lebanese delegation to the conference, said people of his country wanted to live in peace in one unified land and they should be left alone to settle their affairs.

Indonesian Foreign Minister Dr Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja yesterday proposed that the current conference of Islamic foreign ministers should make a strong appeal urging the developed countries to help set up the new international economic order. He said it was important that OIC members must redouble their efforts to strengthen economic cooperation among themselves.

Dr Kusumaatmaja made a plea to rich members of OIC to raise their financial support to other countries to give further momentum to the economic cooperation. He further suggested that more imaginative ways could be found to pool "our scarce resources" to utilise them efficiently through harmony and coordination.

Malaysian Foreign Minister Ghazali Shafie called for taking necessary steps to ensure positive cooperation in the spirit of the Islamic fraternity and love to come to terms with the Islamic Ummah and with the world around.

Referring to the situations in Palestine, Lebanon, Afghanistan, the Iran-Iraq war and Cyprus, he said the Islamic Ummah was indeed faced with crisis in almost all points. Moreover, there were millions of Muslim refugees and minorities who need attention and care, he pointed out.

Formation of Military Bureau

BK090938 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] The Islamic Conference Organization will have a military bureau to be headed by a Pakistani officer. The Bureau's mission will be to maintain coordination between the PLO and other members of the organization. This was disclosed by the secretary general of the 42-member Islamic conference, Mr Habib Chatti, in Dhaka last evening.

The political committee of the conference has adopted a resolution calling for withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan. The committee also approved another resolution on Cyprus. Mr Chatti declined to say whether the resolution went against the spirit of the UN Security Council resolution on the subject. The plenary session of the conference will adopt the resolutions today.

Malaysia, Indonesia on Kampuchea

BK091004 Hong Kong AFP in English 0941 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Excerpts] Dhaka, Dec 9 (AFP) — Malaysia has called on Islamic countries gathered here for a meeting of the Islamic Conference Organization (ICO) to move prudently on the question of the Moslem minority in Vietnamese-occupied Kampuchea.

Malaysian Foreign Minister Tan Sri Ghazali Shafie and his Indonesian counterpart, Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja, have both raised the plight of Kampuchea's Moslems during the meetings here.

Mr Mokhtar yesterday told ICO foreign ministers that there were 200,000 Moslems in the Southeast Asian state.

Malaysia and Indonesia are also members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and their references to Kampuchea here were seen by diplomats as a further round in ASEAN's long-running diplomatic bout with Hanoi over the Kampuchean issue.

Mr Shafie bracketed Kampuchean Moslems among the one-third of the world's 1 billion followers of Islam not represented at the meeting in the Bangladeshi capital. He noted that some of these people were "in the communist bloc."

The Indonesian minister said that "foreign occupation, be it in Kampuchea, Afghanistan or Palestine, is foreign occupation all the same."

Since ICO states condemned the Israeli "occupation of Palestine land," so "we must also condemn" the Vietnamese occupation of Kampuchea, he said.

Mr Shafie, while noting the Kampuchean Moslems' need for help, took what western diplomats here saw as a more nuanced stand. "If we were to act in haste, we may not only send out wrong signals" to the Phnom Penh regime, but "more importantly, allow ourselves and the Khmer Moslems to be exploited by the communists.

"We have to weigh very carefully as to what the ICO or its agencies can or cannot do" to help Kampuchea's Moslems," he added.

Iranian Minister's Address

GF071740 Tehran IRNA in English 1711 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] Dhaka, Dec. 7, IRNA — The influence of foreign powers in Islamic lands, the Zionist regime's pressures upon Muslims, the present calamities of the Muslim world, the occupation of Afghanistan, and the Iraqi imposed war against Iran, were among the most significant issues that Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati of the Islamic Republic raised in his speech at the 14th ICO meeting here today.

On the present plights of Muslim world, the foreign minister said that 14 years elapsed since the ungodly measure of the Zionist regime in setting fire to the Al-Aqsa Mosque. The rancour which was touched off by this sacrilege in the world of Islam formed the impetus for creation of an organisation that was missioned to concentrate efforts and energies of the Islamic nations in a campaign for eliminating colonialism and racial discrimination. It is also to supply support for the campaigns of Islamic nations to vindicate their national rights, achieve independence, and to assist the oppressed Palestinian nation in liberating their lands.

Yet after fourteen years, the world of Islam is faced with miseries caused by aggression of global colonialists, and Islamic lands,

such as Palestine, Lebanon, Afghanistan, Sahara, and the Philippines have been invaded by foreign forces. This is while the desire for struggle has not diminished in the hearts of millions of Muslims during the recent years, but instead has intensified and grown ever since. During this period, not only have the Zionist aggressors held the first qibla [holy site] of Muslim in their clutches but they have transgressed upon Lebanon as well.

Dr. Velayati further said that not only did not the Islamic governments mobilise their popular forces against the regime usurping Palestine but they did not even withhold their resources from superpowers who were accomplices to Zionist regime's crimes. While the enemy pressed its unjust demands by the logic of its machine guns, the Islamic governments would not even wish to stop putting their economic resources at the disposal of the superpowers, he said.

On the occupation of Afghanistan, Dr. Velayati said that the aggression of West oppressive front in Palestine and Lebanon was repeated in another way by the Eastern superpower in Afghanistan. Enumerating the various calamities imposed upon the Afghan Muslims, the foreign minister stressed that the campaign of Afghan Muslim nation to achieve their national rights and independence was a just and rightful cause. He continued that practical and decisive support for this righteous campaign was an Islamic and human duty and corresponded with one of the main goals of the ICO and as a principle of the organisations charter.

Foreign Minister Velayati emphasised that the Islamic Republic could not remain impartial or silent towards these aggressions while following its spiritual goals and its foreign policy. Trerefore, the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of aggressor forces from Afghanistan and providing a situation in which the Afghan nation could freely choose its desired kind of government, was the basis of Iran's policy in connection with this catastrophe of world of Islam.

In another part of his speech, the foreign minister asked whether it was not time that the Islamic governments put an end to the domination of foreign powers in Islamic countries through adopting a coordinated policy so that the divine dignity of Muslims would be restored.

Dr. Velayati then said that the Islamic Conference Organisation should function as an instrument to spread and support Islamic culture as a vast and invincible power rising against the covetings of world expansionists. The ICO should seriously and practically support the rights of Muslims against foreigners in accordance with the guidelines of the holy Koran, the Islamic teachings and the tradition of Prophet Mohammad (saw). This is the righteous expectation of Muslims from any convention which has assumed the title of "Islamic."

He went on saying that those who wanted to live independently and under Islamic teachings could follow the path of the Iranian nation. Curtailing the hands of superpowers, the implementation of Islamic and Koranic teachings and principles and reviving Islamic culture in Iran, made a great and divine power from our nation. The Iranian nation without dependencies upon the West or the East was facing towards solving its problems and felt no need for foreigners.

That was the reason why, he noted, the Islamic revolution was the target of political, economic and military aggressions and was exposed to various conspiracies of enemies of Islam and Muslims, especially the United States.

The foreign minister said that the world oppression headed by the United States invaded the Iranian territory from air, land and sea, through one of its subservients. This open [word indistinct] was carried out despite all the international laws and regulations including the ICO charter which emphasised the non-usage of force in solving disputes among member countries. The bombardments of residential areas and cities increased with the military victories of the Islamic republic forces so that these crimes led to the martyrdom and wounding of thousands of civilians and the destruction of residential quarters and schools in Khorramshahr, Dezful, Andimeshk, Masjid Soleyman, Behbehan, Abadan (in south) Baneh, Marivan (in west) and tens of other cities and villages.

The Iraqi attack upon the oil fields of "Noruz" in west of the Persian Gulf last year was amongst one of the brutal measures of the Iraqi regime which should be recognized as a crime against all the nations of the Persian Gulf region and against humanity. The Iraqi regime, he said, thought that it could force the Islamic republic to discontinue the war by polluting the waters of the Persian Gulf and spreading contamination to the coasts of other regional countries. What the Iraqi rulers had not thought about was that the Iranian experts and technicians could repair the damaged wells despite constant attacks upon the said oil regions.

Failing in this procedure, they have recently raised the issue of free shipping in the Persian Gulf and the Hormuz Strait, trying to paint the Islamic republic as a danger for the regional security.

The Islamic republic has reiterated its undertaking and desire for preserving the security of this strategic waterway and would keep its promise as long as it has not been deprived of using the Persian Gulf. But, he warned, if this legitimate and just right was taken from the Islamic republic, it would be entitled to revise its undertaking and then the Persian Gulf would not be safe for anyone, and Iran would not have any doubt in closing the strategic Hormuz Strait.

Velayati stressed that the Islamic Republic of Iran while rejecting the policies of some countries which compromised with the Zionist regime and (?its) American supporters, warned that military solution was the only way of throwing the Zionist regime out of Muslim lands. Foreign Minister Velayati further said that talking about political solutions on Palestine issue had no better outcome than what was presently happening, that is, the ever-increasing rashness of the Zionist regime which was left free to tighten its grips around Lebanon while occupying vast part of Muslim lands.

In another part of his speech, the foreign minister said that the military intervention of the Zionist regime and the American and French forces in Lebanon was a shocking warning to Muslims. He then called on Muslims to rise up and not to keep silent towards this expansionist regime anymore. The Islamic Republic of Iran has announced the liberation of Al-Quds and Palestine from the yoke of occupiers as one of its main strategic goals and it is ready to put all its financial and spiritual resources at the disposal of those Islamic governments which had the same belief for the achievement of this holy goal.

In conclusion, Dr. Velayati called on the conference to condemn interference of expansionist powers in Lebanon, and strongly oppose measures which help the recognition of the Zionist regime. He also stressed serious necessity of campaign against corruption and colonialistic culture in Muslim societies.

Dr. Velayati also suggested that the Hajj ritual be used as an international Islamic congress to bring up the problems of world of Islam, as well as adoption of lunar hijira calender in all Islamic countries and paying attention to situation of Muslim minorities in non-Muslim countries.

Details of 1984 Trade Protocol With USSR

BK091037 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] The 1984 trade protocol signed by India and the Soviet Union today provides for a record Indian export worth 20 billion rupees and covers several new items, including soybean, oil cake, sugar, and iron (?resins). On the import side, India will buy for the first time from the Soviet Union aluminum and cement.

The protocol was signed in New Delhi by the Soviet deputy foreign trade minister, Mr I. T. Grishin, and the Indian commerce secretary, Mr Abid Hussain, in the presence of the commerce minister, Mr Vishwanath Pratap Singh, and the Soviet first deputy prime minister, Mr Ivan Arkhipov.

The protocol also covers an additional 1 million tons of crude.

Both sides have finalized agreements for wide-ranging cooperation in economic, scientific, and technical fields. Mr Narasimha Rao and Mr Arkhipov signed an agreement to this effect at the 8th session of the Indo-Soviet Joint Commission in New Delhi today. The agreement provides for review of ongoing cooperation between the two countries in the sectors of steel, mines, machine building, power, coal, petroleum, trade, science and technology, and others.

USSR To Supply 3.5 Million Tons of Oil in 1984

BK081314 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 8 Dec 83

[Text] The Soviet Union has agreed to supply 3.5 million tons of crude oil to India next year. This was stated by the visiting Soviet first deputy prime minister, Mr Arkhipov, during a meeting with the energy minister, Mr Shiv Shankar, in New Delhi today.

Iranian Foreign Minister Makes Stopover

LD081514 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 Dec 83

[Excerpts] After attending the 14th Islamic foreign ministers conference, Foreign Minister Velayati made a short stopover in New Delhi en route to Tehran. The Indian deputy foreign minister, the current secretary general of the Nonaligned Movement, the Iranian ambassador to India, and the Indian ambassador to Iran welcomed him at the airport. Our colleague interviewed Velayati at New Delhi Airport:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified Correspondent] In an interview with a Central News Unit correspondent in New Delhi, Velayati referred to the 14th Islamic foreign ministers conference which is in progress in Dhaka, Bangladesh: Considering the course adopted by the Islamic conference, there is little hope of the conference undertaking fast and decisive action to solve the Islamic countries' problems. In our opinion, however, people should participate, make basic criticisms, point out shortcomings, and strive to reform and improve such Islamic gatherings. He added: Possibly most countries do not agree with our views, but the important point for us is to be able to inform the Islamic world of our mission.

In reply to a question regarding Egypt's membership, Velayati said: This issue has not been raised in the conference, but if it is raised, Iran and other progressive countries in the conference will definitely oppose it. Egypt's membership was revoked because it signed the Camp David accord. As long as the reason for Egypt's suspension continues, it should remain suspended. If, however, Egypt severed relations with Israel, there would be no objections to its return to the Islamic conference fold. [end recording]

Ziaul Haq Speaks on Important Role of Navy

BK081137 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 8 Dec 83

[Excerpt] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said the conditions prevailing in the Afro-Asian oceans and the Arabian Sea area demand that our Navy must remain ever vigilant and ready to protect Pakistan's interests. He was addressing the 30th midshipman commissioning parade of the Pakistan Naval Academy in Karachi today. He said this area was today the scene of unprecedented naval and maritime activities. The economies of many nations are dependent on the uninterrupted movement of shipping to and from the littoral countries. The president said as a peace-loving nation, we would like to see the Afro-Asian oceans and the Arabian Sea free from all rivalries, yet we have to take cognizance of the conditions prevailing there. He said with greater investment in the exploitation of seas and oceans, more and more nations are becoming increasingly anxious to acquire their products for economic growth. We in Pakistan should recognize this change and act decisively to ensure our legitimate claims to these resources.

The president said since the Pakistan Navy is an important part of our maritime establishment, it will be necessary for the Navy to support the national development efforts at sea.

DAWN Reports on Foreign Arms Seizure

GF091015 Karachi DAWN in English 6 Dec 83 P 1

[Text] Quetta, Dec. 5: A car-load of foreign arms has been seized by a customs anti-smuggling squad near Khanozai, about 90 kilometres from Quetta.

Assistant Collector Customs, Khan Sarwar, who successfully organised the seizure, said that the seized arms included two rocket-launchers, four G-3 rifles and one MAK-4 rifle.

He said the seizure of arms followed a heavy exchange of fire between the Special Preventive Staff squad of the Land Customs and the smugglers. The smugglers escaped, leaving behind the car-load of arms.

The car was bound for Punjab from Chaman when the raid was organised.

The Customs Intelligence, Rawalpindi, today seized smuggled arms and ammunition worth about Rs.200,000 from Bisal Chowk near Mianwali, which was coming in a car from the tribal areas of Kohat.

According to customs intelligence sources, on an information a raiding team led by Dy. Superintendent Malik Mohammad Sharif was formed, which stopped a car (No AJK-6688) near Bisal Chowk and recovered two rifles, seventy-four pistols and 9974 cartridges, from a cavity in the car.

The driver of the car, Syed Wali Jan, has been arrested and a case has been registered against him.

DAWN: VIP's Allegedly Involved in Narcotics

GF091018 Karachi DAWN in English 6 Dec 83 p 1

[Text] Lahore, Dec. 5: Some VIPs and high-ranking officials have been allegedly held responsible for or been indirectly involved in the spread of narcotics in Pakistan.

This has been claimed by a trans-continental detective-cum-survey agency, in its initial findings, at present working on a physical study to help the Pakistan Government to control the cultivation, use and unlawful trade of drugs.

Highly-placed sources told *DAWN* here today that experts of the organisation had been working on the project for the last about three years during which they literally hunted the "main sources and links" of traffickers in narcotics. The team also studied in detail the psycho-economic and socio-cultural trends of various classes in society. They based their calculations on the facts obtained from universities, industrial concerns, labour organisations, civil servants, fixed-income-group people and by meeting the authorities, as well.

The report claims that a high proportion of narcotic business is being carried out with the connivance of influential people and officials. It has revealed a number of astounding facts by quoting events, dates, places and names of people allegedly involved in the business.

Moreover, names of some air, shipping and containerised trucking organisations allegedly found instrumental in the smuggling of the drugs as well as those of cross-country manual peddlars have also been clearly mentioned in the report.

The report has recommended to the government to take immediate steps to curb the use of drugs — on priority basis — especially in educational institutions, hospital, industrial concerns and slum areas where these are sold through vendors in various fake forms. In this connection, extra-judicial measures have also been suggested.

A high-level meeting is scheduled to be held in February next, following which some proposals recommended by the agency would be adopted and implemented, the sources added.

Ministry Denies Iraq Destroyed Naval Targets

LD091206 Tehran IRNA in English 0955 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 9, IRNA — A Foreign Ministry spokesman of Islamic Republic of Iran [word indistinct] (?today) categorically denied an Iraqi claim regarding the destruction of six Iranian naval targets as well as shooting down an Iranian Air Force fighter plane.

The spokesman said that the Iraqi regime had blatantly violated all international rules and regulations concerning free shipping in the Persian Gulf estuary by attacking two commercial Eypriot and Greek vessels. He said the Iranian naval and Air Force units defended the ships, *Urhup* and *Eyaptos* and the Iraqi attack was aborted.

The spokesman elaborated that the Cypriot vessel carried on with her course unharmed and the Greek ship which had received minor damages was directed to safety. He added that two of the people on board the Greek ship were injured.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman concluded by stating that an Iraqi military plane was downed by the Iranian Air Force fighter planes and its pilot was captured by Iranian forces.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,567

LD081748 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Dec 83

[Communique No 1,567 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. At about 1230 hours today, one intruding Sukhoy-22 aircraft of the aggressive Iraqi Army was shot down into the Persian Gulf by pilots of the Air Force of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, of whom we are so proud and who are ready to give their lives. The aircraft's pilot was captured by our forces.

Exchanges of artillery and heavy weapons fire continued sporadically yesterday between our forces and the aggressive Iraqi Ba'thist mercenaries on our northwestern borders. The combatants of Islam, opening heavy artillery and other long-range weapon fire on the personnel, heavy weapons positions, and supply routes of the enemy, set fire to and destroyed more than five slit trenches and observation posts, one ammunition dump, and several light and heavy vehicles of the Iraqi forces, and killed a number of enemy servicemen.

On the western and southern fronts, the combatants of Islam continued to defend and consolidate their defensive positions; there were sporadic exchanges of fire between our forces and the enemy. Firing was more intense in the Mehran, Zeyd, and Tala'iyeh areas than in other regions on these fronts. On these fronts, our victorious combatants, by returning the fire, dispatching patrol groups, and setting up observation posts, brought the movements and traffic of the Iraqi forces under control. Having sighted the enemy's artillery and mortar positions, they destroyed several Iraqi forces' mortar launchers and stopped their fire. Our forces also caused considerable disruption in the supply and traffic activities of the motorized columns and the construction operations of the Saddamist mercenaries. By setting fire to part of their positions and fortifications, they killed or wounded a number of enemy servicemen.

Yesterday, the city of Abadan continued to come under the long-range weapons fire of the Saddamist criminals. As a result, several houses and shops were damaged and several of our beloved compatriots were wounded.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

President Cites Determination To Continue War

LD081904 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Dec 83

[Text] A group of the clergy and martyr-nurturing people of Yazd Province, accompanied by members of the province's Islamic Republic Party, today met with President Seyyed 'Ali Khamane'i. During the meeting, referring to the faith and hard efforts of the people of Yazd Province and emphasizing that the solution has placed a burden of very important duties on our shoulders, Khamene'i said: We are determined to prove the invincibility of our revolution with regard to the aggressive powers of the East and the West, and we will do so. Those powers who imagined that, by imposing several years of war upon the Islamic Republic of Iran through our wicked neighbor, they would be able to weaken our Islamic Revolution are wrong and, God willing, we will make them regret their deed.

The president went on: These mouthpieces of global propaganda, who by creating an adverse climate of opinion are trying to weaken our determination to continue the war against the aggressive and oppressive regime of Iraq, should realize that their efforts are futile. The day we announced that we were determined to force these puppets of the superpowers to regret their aggression, we calculated our words and we will go forward until the last step leading to victory of the nation of Iran and the revolution. We are not going to allow the enemy to leave the arena proud and happy with his aggression.

The conditions set by the Islamic Republic of Iran are final and these conditions must be accepted. Otherwise, the war will continue until the overthrow of the Iraqi Zionist regime, which the whole world knows is a puppet of the superpowers. Fortunately, today, we are more prepared and our provisions are superior to those we had in the past; our hope in God and the future is greater than ever.

Velayati Returns From ICO Conference, Comments

LD091104 Tehran IRNA in English 0933 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 8, IRNA — In the 14th session of foreign ministers of Islamic Conference Organisation in Dhaka important issues such as the question of Palestinians, occupation of Lebanon by the Zionist regime and multi-national forces, threats of foreign and imperialism forces against Syria and the continuation of occupation of Afghanistan by Soviet forces were dis-

cussed, said Iran's foreign minister, Dr. Velayati today returning from Dhaka.

In an interview at Tehran International Airport Velayati said an important resolution on Palestinian issue was presented to the conference by the Islamic Republic of Iran, together with one about campaign against corruption and revival of Islamic virtues and adoption of Hegira Calendar in all Muslim countries.

He said some of the resolutions were approved by the on-going foreign ministers' conference and some were put off to be discussed in the Islamic Conference summit which indicated "reluctance on the part of the conference to tackle serious Islamic issues."

Velayati said Syria also presented a proposal calling for condemnation of the U.S. (?aggression against) Syria by the conference followed by another one by Libya calling for withdrawal of multi-national forces from Lebanon and the Islamic Republic of Iran strongly backed the two demands.

He described as "good" the overall dialogue among the progressive member countries in the Islamic Conference Organisation saying that the Iranian delegation (?held) 16 rounds of marginal talks in which issues of common interest were discussed.

On the question of the Iraqi imposed war, said the foreign minister, Iran presented the conference with a proposal demanding condemnation of Iraq as the initiator of war. He said that the Islamic Republic of Iran also pointed out that Iraqi regime was bombarding the residential areas while using chemical weapons against the innocent civilians in Iran and that the Iraqi regime was moving in a direction of speading the war.

The Iranian foreign minister then reiterated the necessity of using such gatherings as a forum to let the world know about the stance of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Assessing the conference Velayati said in the course of the session attempts were made regarding the condemnation of enemies of Islam such as the U.S. which, in itself, was a worthy objective, adding that when the issue of denouncing the U.S. was raised it was considered as a triumph though not all the participants were not willing to approve of it due to their subserviency. [sentence as received]

The Islamic Conference summit will beheld in Casablanca of Morocco next month.

Ayatollah Montazeri Receives Various Officials

Assembly Committee Members

LD081523 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 Dec 83

[Text] The members of the Islamic Consultative Assembly Guidance Committee held talks yesterday in Qom with Grand Ayatollah Montazeri on the committee's problems. According to a Central News Unit report, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri, referring to the Islamic Revolution's positive effects in Iran, said: Although this revolution has enabled us to overthrow a corrupt 2,500-year-old regime, prepare the ground for an Islamic Revolution, and affect a change in all other social affairs, our government departments are beset to a certain extent with the selfsame problems of the past and we are still unsuccessful in our administrative revolution.

One notices that certain such satanical influences as bureaucracy continue to persist in various departments and organizations, coupled with excessive protocol and futile expenditures, and even certain non-Islamic laws in banks and other places, despite all the emphatic behests by the illustrious leader of the revolution. Of course, a promise has been made to reform the situation in the banks. In dealing with these affairs the Islamic Revolution needs certain moral courage and administrative audacity which, unfortunately, we have lacked so far. It is expected that the Islamic Consultative Assembly should take the lead in this onerous issue, and the people expect the Majlis to secure a meticulous and utterly decisive supervision over such problems in the country's administrative system and to be bold enough to bring about changes in the country's administrative affairs.

In this connection, while emphasizing the need to abolish excessive protocol, he said: As we want to practice Islamic government in society, we should adopt as a model the selfsame administrative simplicity of the dawn of Islam and should heed how the Holy Imam 'Ali — may peace be upon him — during the few years of his rule, attended to all judicial affairs, disputes, and lawsuits in the place known as the Judicial Stone Bench in a mosque without any sign of protocol, without personnel, and without anyone's business being delayed.

Today we are unfortunately beset with the same customs and traditions of the West, so much so that one may even notice that our activities, instead of being simple and devoid of protocol, are noisy and more customary to the malevolent Pahlavi regime and among Westerners, and are sometimes conducted in a manner which does not tally with the simplicity of the Islamic Revolution under circumstances when today, the president of the republic and the speaker of our Majlis and most of its deputies have all been or are clergymen or seminarists.

One should pay more attention to these issues and — God Almighty willing — we hope that our responsible leaders, by adopting revolutionary moves and moral courage, will begin this change and abolish from government plans these customs, traditions,and excessive protocol, the funds for which are being footed by the Islamic treasury.

With regard to the government budget, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri said: If the gentlemen heed things more carefully they will see for themselves what vast sums have been earmarked for non,productive affairs; for instance, superfluous but salary-receiving personnel existing in various sectors. Even recently, despite the government's direct intervention in the issue of goods distribution, this trend has increased.

With regard to bringing public services to the rural areas and the fact that the purchase of farmers' produce at reasonable prices would give them an incentive to remain in the rural areas, he said: While cheap meat, bread, and other public and welfare

services are obtainable in the cities and while farmers' goods are purchased at prices that do not make their production viable, the situation is such that the rural areas are daily increasingly emptied, while the cities are increasingly filled, as there is no incentive for a farmer to remain in the countryside to produce much needed foodstuffs.

With regard to the revolutionary nature of the Reconstruction Crusade system, he graciously said: It has recently been decided to turn this organ into a ministry. I fear that this revolutionary organ — which has hitherto been devoid of protocol and administrative bureaucracy, and for that very reason has been able to render valuable services to the revolution, the people and on the fronts — by becoming a ministry, will be faced with the problems besetting other ministries.

He then graciously called on the Islamic Consultative Assembly Guidance Committee to increasingly heed the information disseminated by the Ministry of Islamic Guidance within the country. He said: Why, for instance, should large sums be spent on unnecessary posters? Instead of posters, the officials responsible for information at the Guidance Ministry should print useful books and pamphlets in various world languages and should place them at the disposal of houses of culture abroad; they should plan which books and pamphlets should be given to which country.

With regard to compiling an Islamic encyclopedia from the standpoints of Shi'ite principles, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri graciously said: We should not be idle while the British and others compile an Islamic encyclopedia for us so that Muslims would then need to translate the same into Arabic! With all the aptitudes and scholars at our disposal, why do we not embark on such a great task?

In connection with the dispatch of bibliographical missions abroad by the Islamic Guidance Ministry for the purpose of obtaining original copies of books on Shi'ite Islamic culture and law, he graciously added: One of Esfahan's great scholars — who has passed on and is now a recipient of God's mercy — used to say that in his younger days, some 60 years ago, the famous library of the late Majlesi — may God's mercy be upon him — was auctioned, and so many precious Shi'ite books were immediately bought by Jews and Europeans and taken away with them, that the remaining books were sold by the kilogram. He used to say that he had succeeded in buying several kilograms of books at bargain prices, including such valuable books as "Rowzeh-ye Kafi," handwritten by Molla Saleh Mazandari. So it was in that manner that our scholarly and valuable works were exported from the country. It is now our duty, by any means at our disposal, to dispatch research workers and bibliographers abroad to search in the well-known libraries of the world to obtain at least a photocopy or a film of the books on Islamic jurisprudence and science by our past scholars, which constitute the authorities and sources of the principles of Islamic precepts, and to return the same to the country with the cooperation of our embassies.

According to the same report, Ayatollah Taheri, Friday imam and the imam's representative in Esfahan; Ayatollah Azari-Qomi, secretary to the academic staff of the Qom Religious Seminary; the Friday imams of Borujerd, Ashtian, and Paveh; seminarists and Sunnites from the town of Paveh; and Zavari, deputy for the people of Tehran to the Islamic Consultative Assembly, separately met Grand Ayatollah Montazeri in Qom during the past 2 days.

Judicial Council Members

LD031307 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 3 Dec 83

[Text] According to a report by the Central News Unit from Qom, members of the Supreme Judicial Council met with the Grand Ayatollah Montazari at the residence of State Prosecutor General Sane'i in Qom yesterday and talked to his eminence about the country's judicial issues.

In this meeting, his eminence reiterated the need to discover and recruit committed and learned forces to fill judicial posts and asked the Supreme Judicial Council to make arrangements for the appointed judges and prosecutors to be briefed on judicial affairs and related political and social issues in regular courses so that they can obtain the required experience.

Referring to the need to fight against hoarding and overcharging and praising the courts' role in this connection, his eminence also said: Although courts are dutybound to act decisively on overcharging and hoarding, the government and those in charge of commodities distribution know the main method of fighting against these matters. In my opinion, if distribution is left to committed guilds and vendors and if the government controls them accurately, there will be no grounds for the shortage and black market of some commodities in some regions and an extraordinary increase in their prices and the courts will not need to intervene.

Grand Ayatollah Montazeri recalled: I have many times asked the honorable brothers in the Cabinet why, for instance, should iron be transferred from the Esfahan steel mill or the country's ports to Tehran with a lot of trouble and expense and then after long delays and postponements be sent from Tehran to the nearby provinces, ports, and the steel mill at great cost, bearing in mind the shortage of vehicles and spare parts. Unfortunately, the situation is the same in the cases of many other commodities. These circumstances give rise to hoarding and overcharging in remote regions and this is why the government needs more properly motivated personnel to prepare the courts' cases.

In conclusion, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri also emphasized the importance of making an effort to implement his holiness the imam's decree on those for whom detention in prison is not considered necessary and whose release does not cause any danger or harm.

Mobilization Commanders

GF021700 Tehran IRNA in English 1620 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] Qom, Dec. 2, IRNA — Ignoring their basic differences, forces of communism and capitalism are each waging a war against the Islamic revolution and each is aiding Saddam Hoseyn

against the Islamic Republic, prominent theologian Ayatollah Montazeri said Thursday.

Addressing a group of visiting commanders of Basij resistance divisions from across the country, Ayatollah Montazeri said that the two superpowers of the world have been panicked by the Islamic revolution and each find themselves insecure and unsafe in their confrontation with the Islamic revolution.

Elsewhere in his speech to the visting officials the Ayatollah reminded that as long as the elements causing the birth of the Islamic revolution continue to exist in the post-revolution era, the continuity of the revolution is definitely guaranteed.

Pointing out elsewhere to a need for an intellectual and ethical revolution by individuals for the upkeep of the revolution, he reminded that as long as military mobilization is not complemented by an intellectual and cultural revolution such mobilization is not very much likely to have any significance. He urged the youthful members of the Basij to make a practice of daily studies in order that a nationwide movement towards ethical values may be made possible. He also called on the visiting officials to practice an ethical revolution and purify their souls from impurities and from such evils as avarice, jealousy, undue pride and selfishness, ammasing material wealth and love of social status as a first step towards salvation.

Gendarmerie, Interior Officials Visit Saravan

GF041022 Zahedan Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 4 Dec 83

[Text] Gendarmerie Commander Colonel Kuchakzadeh, together with Hojjat ol-Eslam Fallahian, acting interior minister, arrived in Saravan yesterday. They were received at the airport by the local governor, the Saravan Majlis deputy, local military and civil officials, and other city officials. The Gendarmerie commander, after the military ceremony at the airport, arrived at the headquarters of the Saravan Garrison and spoke on the imperialist plots against Iran, the need for defending the achievements of the revolution, and the defense of the Islamic Republic. The commander, after meeting with members of the Islamic committee and the city fathers, left Saravan for Zahedan on the same day.

Free Voice of Iran Says New Draft Law Passed

GF081733 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 8 Dec 83

[Text] The Majlis of the clerics today approved a new law under which old men up to 60 years of age can be drafted for military duty and can be sent to Islamic Republic fronts in wars against the world Muslims anywhere in the world. However, even before this law was passed, the Khomeyni regime had been sending old men to war, calling them voluntary martyrs. But now 60-year-olds can be sent to war by law and the Khomeyni regime will now draft old men and dispatch them to warfronts under various organizational names like the mobilization or jihad to achieve martyrdom.

The cleric deputy from Kermanshahan said in the Majlis today that the warfronts of the Islamic republic are not confined to west or south of the republic, but are spread to all areas where Islam is needed. From this definition, one can understand that from now on old men up to the age of 60 will not only be sent to the warfronts against Iraq and against the Kurdish people of Iran, but will also be sent to Lebanon, Syria, Libya, Chad, the so-called the Saharan Republic, Oman, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia. The war of the Islamic Republic against the Islamic people of the world continues and now even the 60-year-old people of Iran have been given a chance to take up arms and wear around their necks the key to paradise promised by Khomeyni.

The matter has now clearly passed from a fatwa [ruling] for jihad by Khomeyni into a law of the Majlis, whose chairman is cleric Akbar Rafsanjani. It would cause little wonder if children of 10 or old men of 60 should die on Islamic Republic fronts in wars against Muslims of the world. It is enough that Imam Khomeyni should live.

Azarbayjani Mobilization Members Sent to Fronts

GF040620 Tabriz Domestic Service in Azeri 1530 GMT 5 Dec 83

[Excerpt] On the last day of the celebration of the week of oppressed mobilization, most of the volunteers of the mobilized organizations of Tabriz, Maragheh, Ardabil, Adabshir, Meshginshahr, (Parsabad), Germy, (Bilesavad), Khalkhal, Marand, and Azarshahr left for the fronts of right against wrong in the presence of the representative of the imam in Azarbayjan and the Friday imam of Tabriz, Ayatollah Malakuti, and the Muslim people of Tabriz, who gave them a warm farewell yesterday afternoon. At these ceremonies, Ayatollah Malakuti praised the mobilization volunteers for going in the path of God to support Islam and fight for the rights of the people of Iran. He then prayed for the long life of the imam of umma' and the final victory of the forces of Islam.

Free Voice of Iran on Nateq-Nuri Remarks

GF081100 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] Akhond Nateq-Nuri, interior minister of the illegal Khomeyni regime, yesterday in a talk admitted that a group of Afghan refugees are taking part in the Iran-Iraq war. The Free Voice of Iran had revealed earlier in its report, quoting (Ta'la'at) Mohammad Yar 'Ali Beg and other Afghan Muslim freedom seekers, about the crimes committed by the Khomeyni regime with respect to the Afghan refugees. The Free Voice of Iran also revealed that the Afghan refugees who do not comply with the Khomeyni regime's orders to join the campaign against the Iranian Kurds and also take part in the war fronts against Iraq are threatened with return to the Karmal regime.

We even broadcast a recording of (Ta'la'at) Mohammad Yar 'Ali Beg and of other political leaders against the Kabul regime who have accused the Khomeyni regime of adopting anti-Islamic measures against the Muslim Afghan refugees. The Muslim Afghan refugees must take part in the "made to order" elections;

they should take part in the warfronts against Iraq, in crushing the Kurds, and cooperate with the guards in inspecting roads, houses, and borders or face being sent back to Afghanistan. Some of these Afghan refugees in Iran have run away to Pakistan via Quetta.

Formerly the Khomeyni regime used to contradict such news reports. But Akhond Nateq-Nuri yesterday and today admitted that the Afghans have been provided with identity cards and this was a cause for pride in the regime because they took part at the warfronts also. He then referred to the Afghan refugees who are members of the Guards Corps and said that they take part in thefts, bloodshed, and mischief perpetrated by the guards. While claiming that some Afghan refugees were American spies, he said that only two people were killed in the Tehran incident although rumors coming out of Tehran to this secret radio station say that from 20 to 30 people were killed.

The interior minister added that the attack on the Afghan refugees in Mawlavi Square, in Shahr-e Rey, and Varamin was not a routine affair and it shows that these were planned attacks and that some hidden hands were behind it.

Nateq-Nuri then referring to the news broadcasts, so to speak, from foreign countries, said that they have nothing to say; by these actions and words they intend to question the efficiency of the Islamic Republic and to show its weakness. Akhond Nateq-Nuri knows that the government is weaker than what the foreign radios depict. Akhond Nateq-Nuri knows that the radio to which he is referring has a lot of things to say, like thefts, bribery, misappropriations from the government exchequer by the disreputable interior minister but this radio has more important things to do and has no time to look into the treacheries and malpractices of Nateq-Nuri. Although he is interior minister for Khomeyni, he still maintains his (?old habits).

Nateq-Nuri then referred to the participation, so to speak, of parties in the second Akhond Majlis elections and also to the midterm elections of the Council of Experts, saying anyone may take part in the elections if he does not fall under the terms of the 10-point statement of the chief revolution prosecutor. What sort of free elections will these be since they handpick candidates? Which parties will be allowed to field candidates? The Islamic Republic Party or Nehzat-e Azadi of bankrupt Engineer Bazargan or the branch of the communists who do not follow the Khomeyni line — the Fedayan-e Khalq?

Nateq-Nuri in the same press conference added that there were people who wanted to limit the elections to those who themselves have a questionable status. His reference was to Engineer Mehdi Bazargan, the first head of the Khomeyni regime, who has fallen so much in his credibility that a corrupt, thief and unimportant mullah like Nateq-Nuri is able to question his political future. Mr Engineer Mehdi Bazargan, their old colleague, who defends the mullahs in Majlis, is also defending Khomeyni and his colonialist-made Islamic Revolution. The statement of the Nehzat-e Azadi, which is the Nehzat-e Azadi of Bazargan, and not the Nehazet-e Azadi of Iran, was not accepted and this fact was witnessed during the violent protests and the silent demonstrations of millions of Iranians in the constitution anniversary demonstrations. This reveals the credibility problems of Bazargan himself and also his problems defending the revolutionary imam who had come to Tehran from Paris.

Nateq-Nuri, in his analysis of Bazargan, the bankrupt and disgraceful politician, said that the Iranian people were an awakened nation and they can identify such disgraceful people. Only in this aspect is he in the same catagory as Akhond Nateq-Nuri.

Radio Iran Reports on Food Shortages

GF070750 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian
1330 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] The shortage of foodstuffs continues to be one of the most important daily issues to the people of Iran and especially the lower income bracket. The war, murders, and the spilling of blood continue to form the main poles of the policy of the Khomeyni regime.

According to a report from Bo'inzahra, the flour allocation for the bakers which had been reduced to 18 tons a month ago as a result of a shortage of flour has been reduced yet again. As a result, the majority of the deprived people of the city are facing additional problems. The people of Bo'inzahra who have to wait for hours in long lines for a single loaf of bread are also facing problems in purchasing other needed items such as gasoline and heavy fuel oil. The shortage of most other essential goods can be observed everywhere.

Reportage on Recent Fighting in Afghanistan

Soviets Retaliate With Raid

GF041240 Tehran International Service in Turkish
1830 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] In clashes with the occupationist Soviet troops and the Kabul regime's forces in Qandahar, revolutionary Muslim Afghans have destroyed a large number of tanks and killed a group of troops loyal to the regime. The occupationist Soviet troops retaliated against this by organizing air raids on various areas of Afghanistan. At least 50 defenseless people have been martyred and 100 others have been wounded around Qandahar as a result of the air raid carried out in that province. Twelve houses were also destroyed during the air raid.

Apart from this, three divisions, a large number of tanks, and tens of fighter planes and helicopters have been used by the occupationist Soviet units and the Kabul regime's forces to surround Farah Province and bombard its residential areas. A total of 185 defenseless Muslims have been martyred and over 200 others have been wounded as a result of this bombardment.

Mujahidin Attack Convoys

GF061721 Tehran International Service in Arabic
1430 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] Afghan Muslim revolutionaries attacked a convoy of Soviet occupationist and Afghan Government forces near the Soviet border and killed a number of these forces, including two

military advisers, and captured large amounts of arms and military equipment.

In (Mirvat) District in Badghisat Province, northwest Afghanistan, the Afghan Muslim revolutionaries attacked a Soviet and Afghan military location and inflicted great losses on them. The Afghan Muslim revolutionaries also succeeded in besieging a (?convoy) carrying provisions and ammunition to the occupationist Soviet troops and forces of Babrak Karmal's regime in [name indistinct] Province.

NVOI Charges 'Incorrect Approach' to OPEC

TA082038 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 8 Dec 83

[Unattributed commentary: "OPEC and Oil Issue"]

[Excerpts] Dear compatriots: As you are aware, the conference of petroleum-exporting countries — OPEC — has started its work. The problem on the agenda for this conference is the primary and basic problem, namely, setting the price of oil and the level of oil production by OPEC member-countries.

It should be understood that the price of oil, as every other commodity in the world market required by society, is completely linked to the ratio of supply and demand. No one and no power can reduce or increase the price of oil without taking into consideration this basic principle governing commerce, that is, the ratio between supply and demand.

The reason it is essential to devote attention to this point is that lately some of our country's authorities, who have become accustomed to being bullies and to speaking irresponsibly, have been making remarks about OPEC and the issue of oil prices while using this same incorrect approach. For example, Mr Rafsanjani, head of the legislature, whose recent sermons constitute these very threats, hollow claims, and bluffs, has said in this connection: The treason committed by leaders of Saudi Arabia by reducing every barrel of oil by $5 has caused $36 billion of oppressed people's money in oil-exporting countries to be poured into the pockets of Western capitalists during one year. This, of course, is a correct statement. No one denies or can deny that the subservience of the regime ruling Saudi Arabia was one of the important factors in the reduction of the oil price. But what is tantamount to a hollow threat and a baseless claim in this same sermon and in connection with OPEC's work is that addressing Arab countries he said: If you continue this policy, we have the power to prevent revenue of Persian Gulf oil from being poured into the pockets of colonialist countries.

Since our country's government officials, including Mr Rafsanjani, incorrectly and due to vain imagination place themselves at the axis and center of the world, they say whatever they like without a sense of responsibility. Resorting to hollow claims and threats not only does not have any effect on solving actual problems, whether on the national or international level, but will also disgrace further the self-centered claimants. Setting the price of oil and the level of oil production of OPEC member-countries is not and never has been subject to the decision of a single member-country of this organization, particularly a country whose oil production could not be compensated by increasing the production of other oil-producing countries should it discontinue production. Where is the power of Mr Rafsanjani that, single-handed, he wants to fight against several oil-exporting countries of the region? For how long will he make hollow claims and pretentious irresponsible statements? If you had power, you would have at least carried out one of your promises made to the people thousands of times in these very Friday prayer sermons.

At present the oil production of OPEC member-countries is about 17 million barrels per day, the major part of which is produced and exported by Saudi Arabia. Only mutual agreement and the joint decision of all OPEC member-countries in connection with reducing oil production and setting the production level of every OPEC member-country to the extent of its real needs can induce Saudi Arabia to reduce oil production and raise the price of oil in the world market to its real level.

Our country's authorities, by relying on the bayonet, repression, terror, and inquisition can impose for a while their own wishes as well as those of the social plunderers and parasites on the people within the country, but resorting to such disagreeable methods in solving international problems will achieve nothing for rulers of the Islamic Republic of Iran but further disgrace and shame.

IRNA Addition to Tudeh Trial Report

The following addition to the item headlined,"Trial Against Tudeh, Former Navy Commander Begins," published in the 7 December South Asia *DAILY REPORT* on page I 4, is supplied by Tehran IRNA in English at 0930 GMT on 3 December:

Page I 5, after fifth and last paragraph, add:—"Partovi said that the information provided by 'Afzali were usually about the issues of the Persian Gulf, the Iraqi imposed war and the destructive actions of the Iraqi regime against Iran's border areas. 'From some of the information which we got from 'Afzali, it was clear that some of them were worthless for the party (itself) and they were used by the Soviet Union,' he said." (adding IRNA-supplied paragraph)